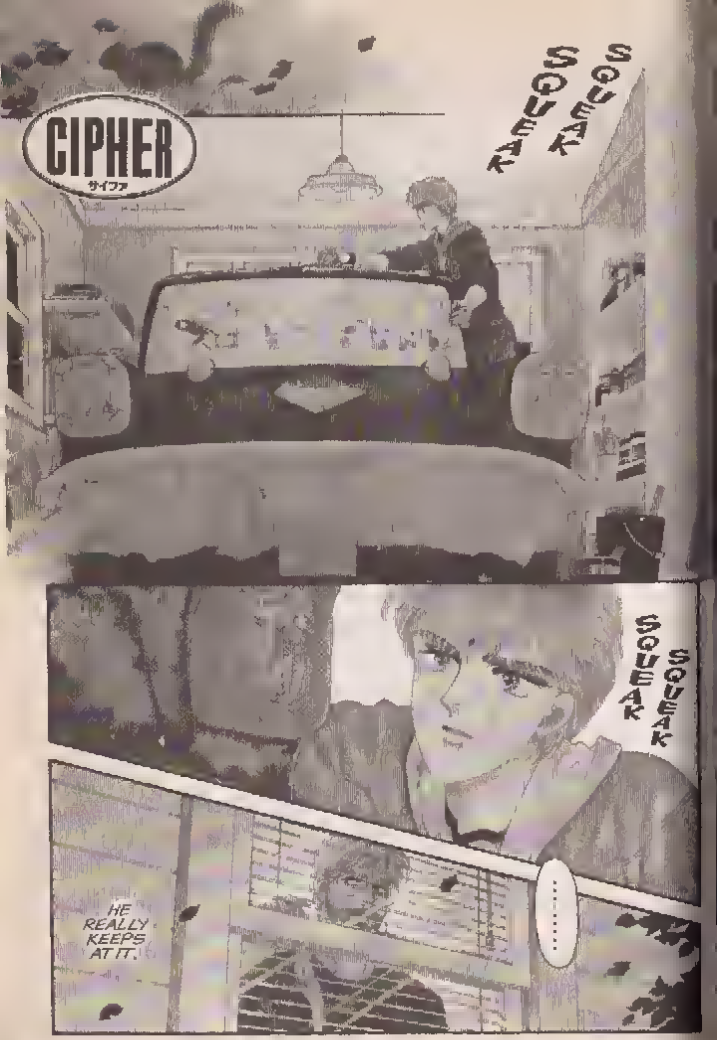
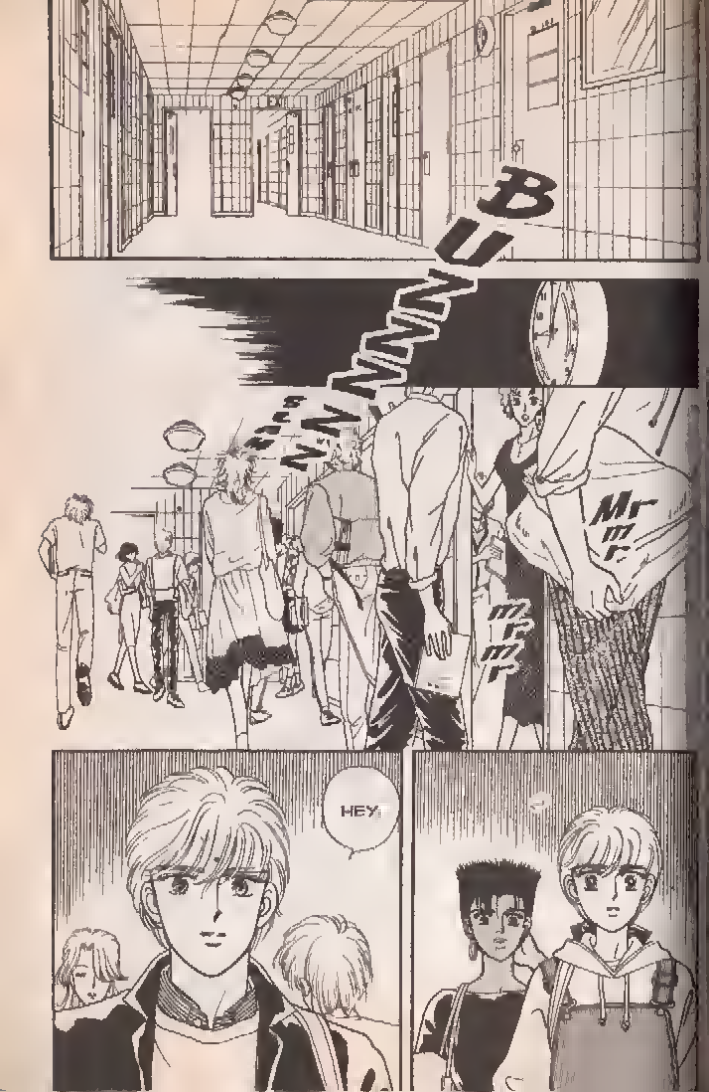
CIPHER
サイファ

Scene5. THE SLEEPING BEAUTY IN A HUNDRED YEARS

A

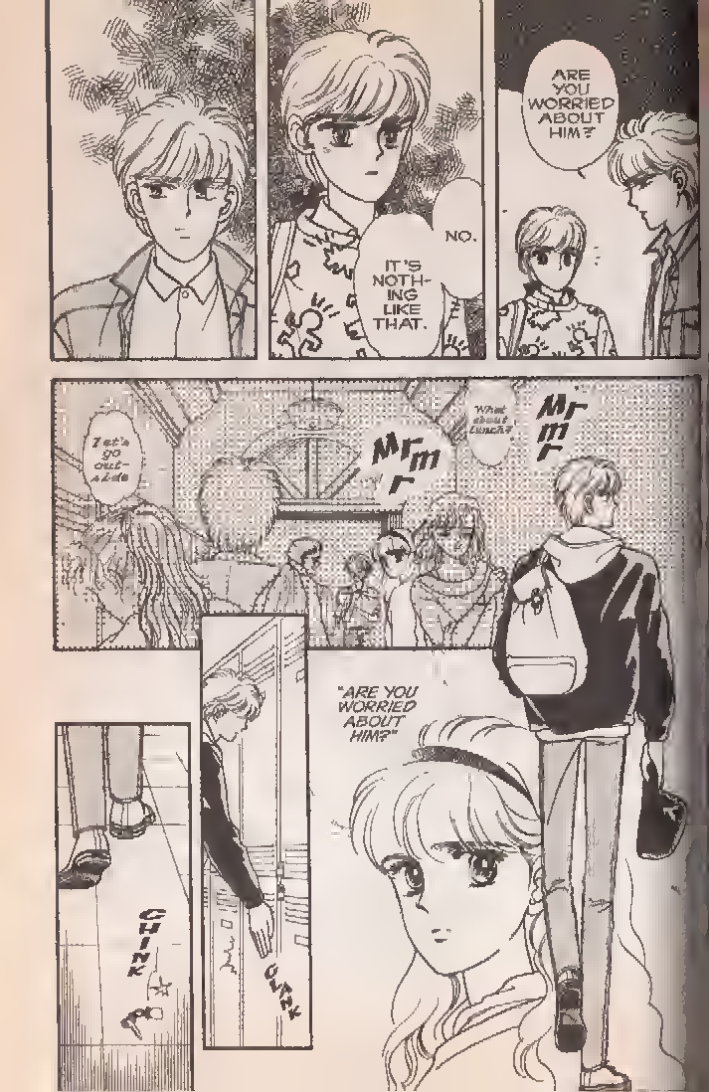

CIPHER
サイファ
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
HE REALLY KEEPS AT IT.
.....


BUMMM
BUMMM
Mr Mr
Mr Mr
HEY!

UH...
I'VE GOT A JOB AFTER SCHOOL TODAY.
SO... I WON'T BE COMING TO THE GARAGE.
UH... OKAY, GOT IT.
BREAK A LEG.
2-107
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU TWO?
YOU'VE EVEN STOPPED EATING LUNCH TOGETHER
LINE UP!
FEEL

Thanks For Sister
Namiko
SHE'S SO DISTANT.
I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T TALK TO HER.
SHE'S CLEARLY AVOIDING ME.
CANDY
MILK
SHE CAN TALK TO OTHERS SO EASILY.
HOW DID THINGS GET LIKE THIS?
CLOCK

WHERE'S CIPHER. ISN'T HE HERE?
CIPHER.
WHAT? YOU LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY?
NOT REALLY.
UH...
WELL... CIPHER?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING FOR LUNCH?
ALL I HEARD WAS THAT FROM NOW ON, WE DON'T EAT LUNCH WITH YOU.


ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM?
NO.
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.
Let's go out-a-lala
Mrm
What about lunch?
Mrm
"ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM?"
CHINK
CLANK

C'MON! WE GOTTA HURRY! HE'S GETTING AWAY!
HEY!
HE DROPPED SOME-THING!
HEY, WAIT...
THAT'S RIGHT!
MOLLY, RIGHT? YOU'RE THAT GIRL FROM BE-FORE?
?!
LOOK! THERE HE IS!
WHICH WAY DID HE GO?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO GO MEET HIM FOR LUNCH OR...
I DON'T EAT WITH HIM ANY-MORE!
WE DON'T HAVE TO SCREAM AFTER HIM!
IT'S NOT LIKE SOME EMER-GENCY.
BUT... IS THAT OKAY?
HEY...
PIPE DOWN!
Umf!

GOOD AFTERNOON!

MY PONYTAIL IS GETTING LONGER, AND "CYPHER" HAS NOW REACHED VOLUME 5. IT'S GONE BY QUICKLY BUT IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE THE SERIES STARTED SERIALIZATION.

RECENTLY MY HEALTH HASN'T BEEN TOO GOOD. MY STOMACH IS KINDA WEAK AND I FEEL LIKE RUNNING. I'VE BEEN ANEMIC, CATCHING COLDS—I'M A WRECK. MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE MY WORKLOAD HAS INCREASED. I'VE BEEN PRETTY BUSY.

THE SOURCE OF MY STRENGTH, JUST LIKE ALWAYS, HAS BEEN THE THOMPSON TWINS. THE MAGAZINE "SMASH HITS" DIDN'T RATE IT TOO WELL, BUT I REALLY LOVE THEIR NEW SINGLE "GET THAT LOVE." I LISTEN TO IT ENDLESSLY WHILE I WORK.

THIS TIME, I'LL DRAW HIM REALISTICALLY.

I BETTER FOLLOW HIM AND FIND OUT.

SO WHERE DOES HE EAT? AND WITH WHO?

YOU DON'T? WHAT A SHAME!

I NOTICED HE HASN'T BEEN IN THE CAFETERIA RECENTLY.

GLANCE

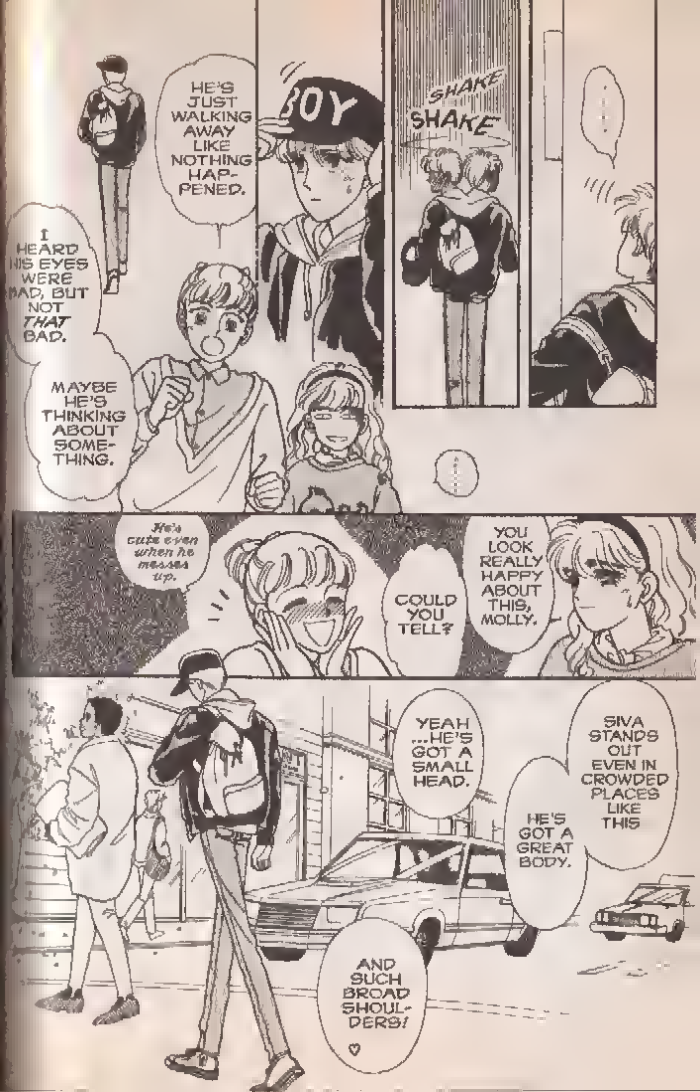
AH HA!

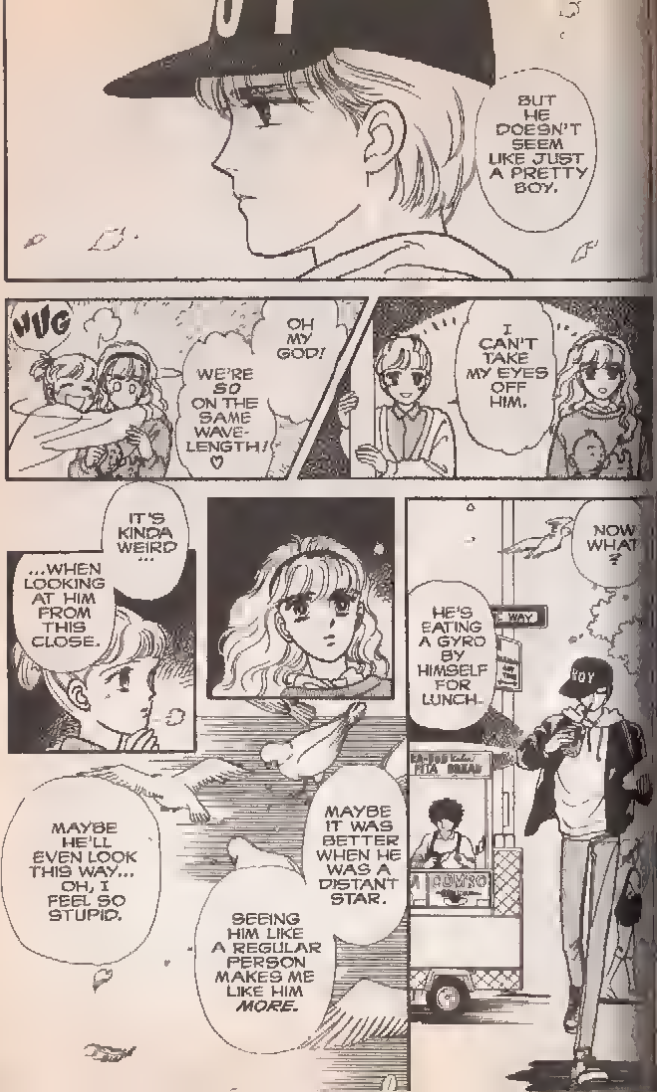
MO-MOLLY...

YOU SHOULDN'T...

WHAM!

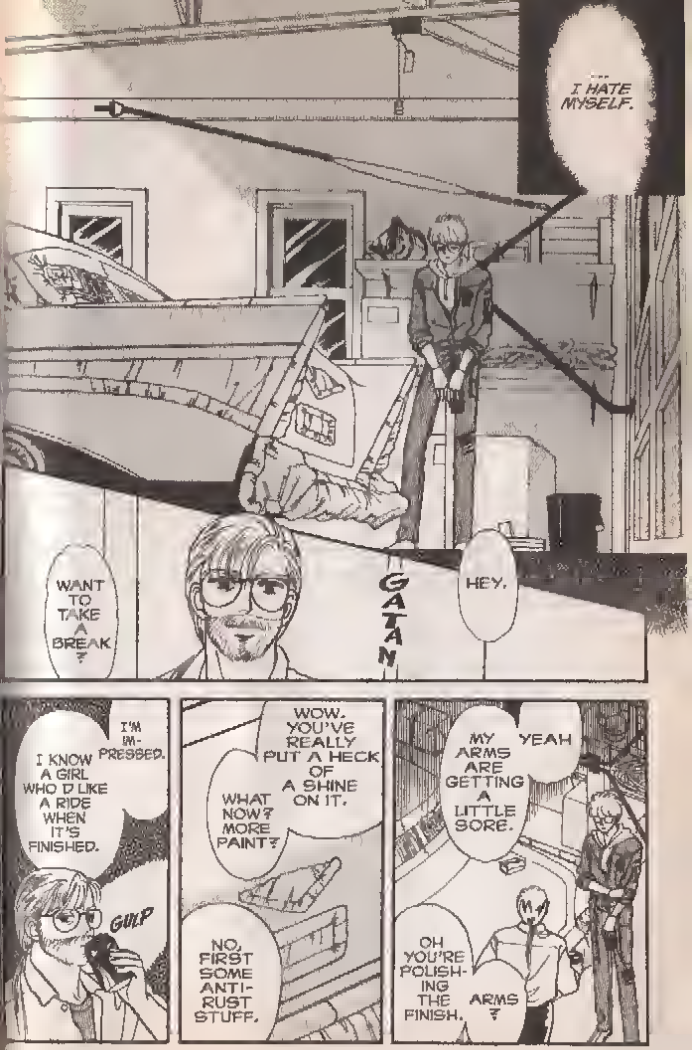
HE HIT IT!

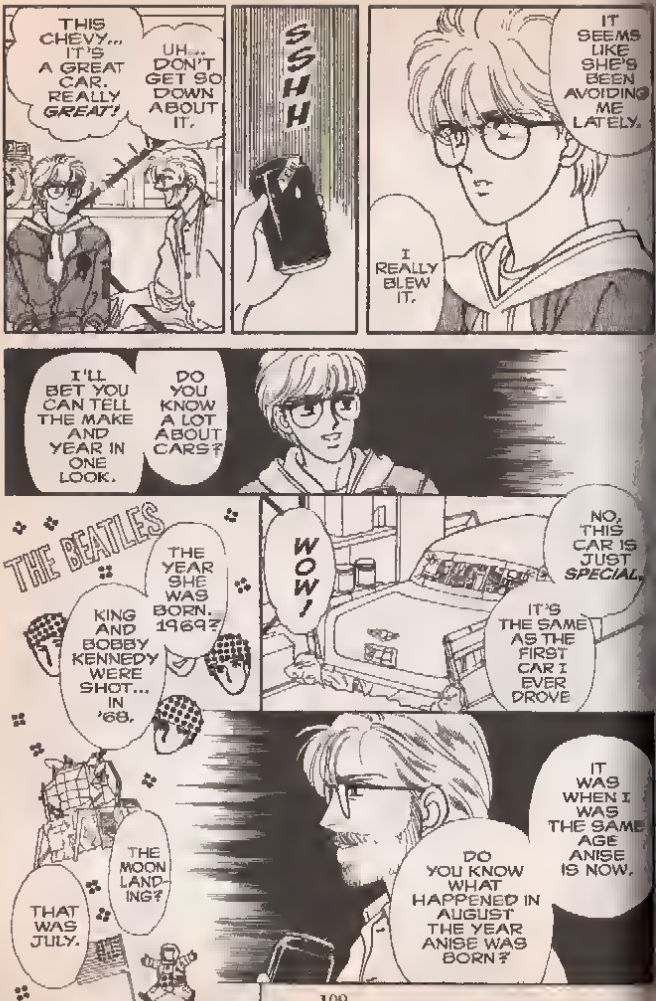

I HEARD HIS EYES WERE BAD, BUT NOT THAT BAD.
HE'S JUST WALKING AWAY LIKE NOTHING HAP-PENED.
BOY
SHAKE
SHAKE
MAYBE HE'S THINKING ABOUT SOME-THING.
He's cute even when he messes up.
COULD YOU TELL?
YOU LOOK REALLY HAPPY ABOUT THIS, MOLLY.
YEAH ...HE'S GOT A SMALL HEAD.
HE'S GOT A GREAT BODY.
SIVA STANDS OUT EVEN IN CROWDED PLACES LIKE THIS
AND SUCH BROAD SHOUL-DERS! ♡

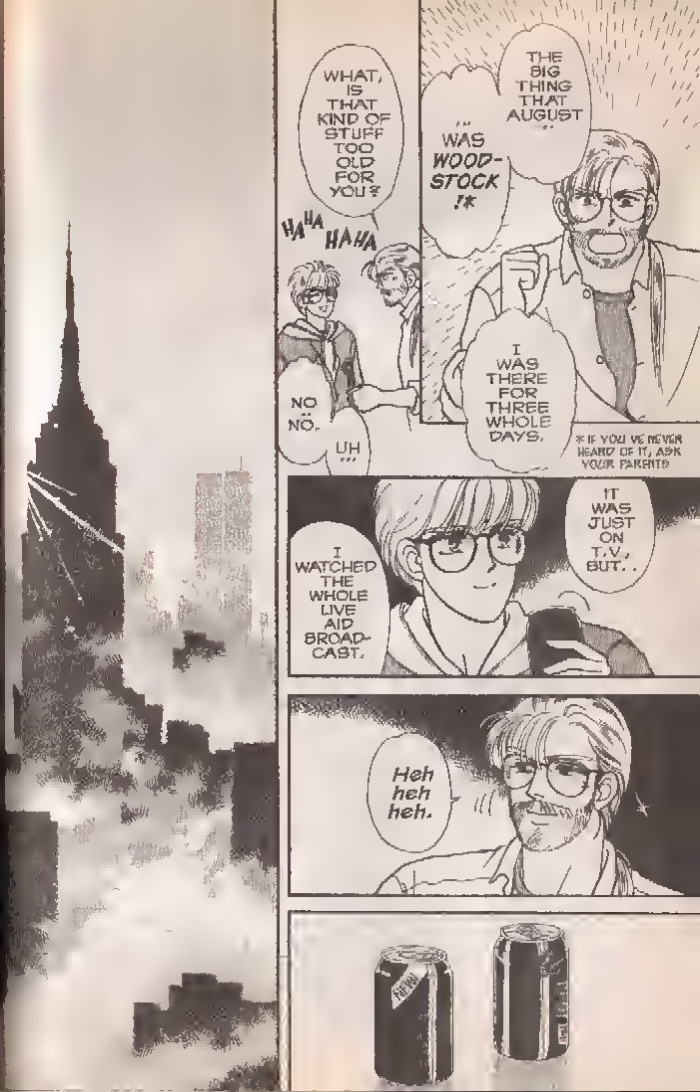

BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE JUST A PRETTY BOY.
OH MY GOD!
WE'RE SO ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH! ♡
I CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM.
IT'S KINDA WEIRD ...
...WHEN LOOKING AT HIM FROM THIS CLOSE.
NOW WHAT ?
HE'S EATING A GYRO BY HIMSELF FOR LUNCH.
MAYBE HE'LL EVEN LOOK THIS WAY... OH, I FEEL SO STUPID.
SEEING HIM LIKE A REGULAR PERSON MAKES ME LIKE HIM MORE.
MAYBE IT WAS BETTER WHEN HE WAS A DISTANT STAR.

I LOVE HIM.
I LOVE HIM.

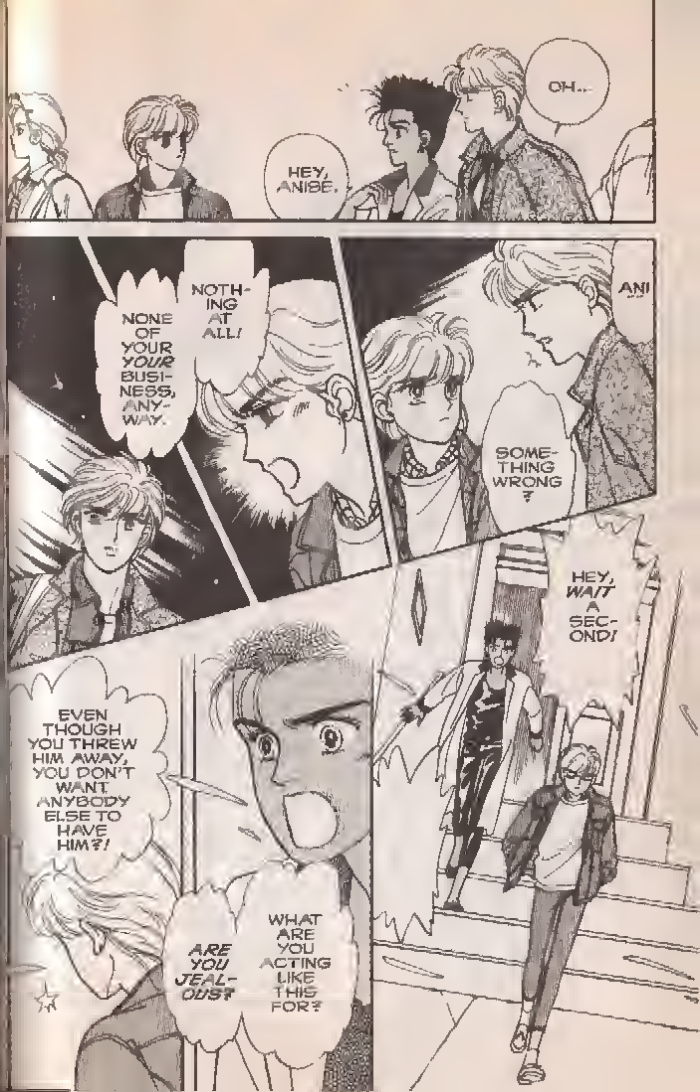
I'LL JUST GO UP AND TALK TO HIM.
I'LL GIVE HIM HIS KEYS
HEY, ANISE.
SEE HOW I FEEL ABOUT ...
TALK TO HIM.
GOOD LUCK AT WORK!
GOO--
STOMP
I...


... I HATE MYSELF.
WANT TO TAKE A BREAK?
GATAN
HEY.
I'M IM-PRESSED. I KNOW A GIRL WHO'D LIKE A RIDE WHEN IT'S FINISHED.
GULP
WOW. YOU'VE REALLY PUT A HECK OF A SHINE ON IT.
WHAT NOW? MORE PAINT?
NO, FIRST SOME ANTI-RUST STUFF.
YEAH MY ARMS ARE GETTING A LITTLE SORE.
OH YOU'RE POLISH-ING THE ARMS FINISH.
?

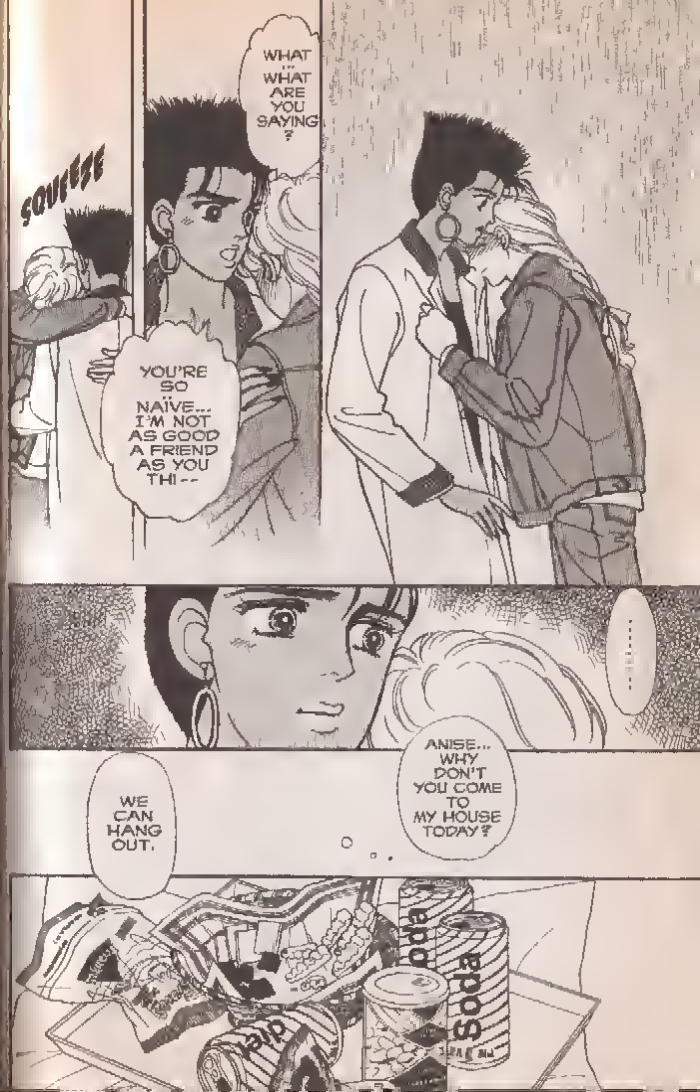

THIS CHEVY... IT'S A GREAT CAR. REALLY GREAT!
UH... DON'T GET SO DOWN ABOUT IT.
SSHH
IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S BEEN AVOIDING ME LATELY.
I REALLY BLEW IT.
I'LL BET YOU CAN TELL THE MAKE AND YEAR IN ONE LOOK.
DO YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT CARS?
THE BEATLES
THE YEAR SHE WAS BORN. 1969?
KING AND BOBBY KENNEDY WERE SHOT... IN '68.
WOW!
NO, THIS CAR IS JUST SPECIAL.
IT'S THE SAME AS THE FIRST CAR I EVER DROVE
IT WAS WHEN I WAS THE SAME AGE ANISE IS NOW.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN AUGUST THE YEAR ANISE WAS BORN?
THE MOON LANDING?
THAT WAS JULY.

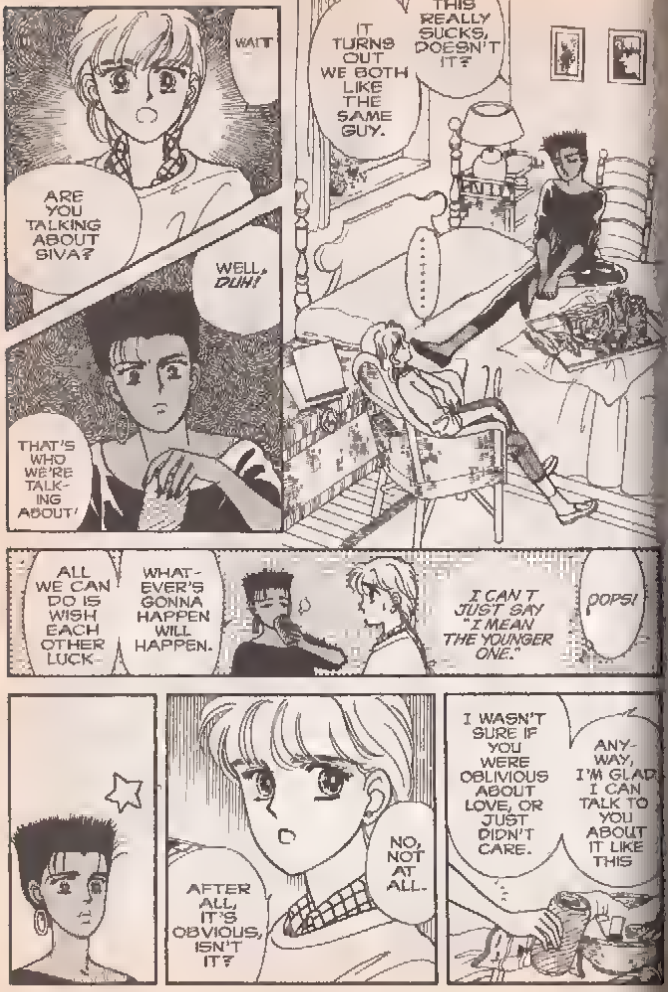

WHAT, IS THAT KIND OF STUFF TOO OLD FOR YOU?
HA HA HA HA
NO .. NO.
UH ...
THE BIG THING THAT AUGUST ... WAS WOOD-STOCK !*
I WAS THERE FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS.
* IF YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT, ASK YOUR PARENTS
I WATCHED THE WHOLE LIVE AID BROAD-CAST.
IT WAS JUST ON T.V., BUT..
Heh heh heh.

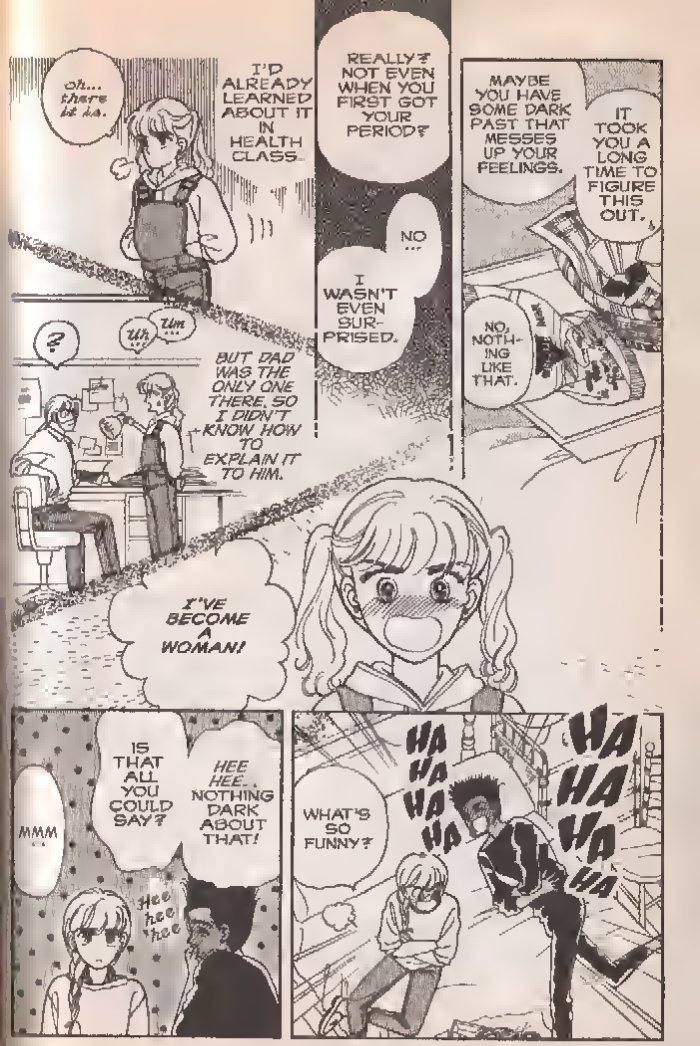
SIVA? UM...
I MEAN, HAVE YOU SEEN SIVA?
WHERE'S CI--
I THINK HE WAS JUST ON THE STAIRS.
THIS TIME FOR SURE!
HOW ABOUT HAVING LUNCH WITH ME?
OKAY.
C'MON, CHEER UP.
DON'T BE SO DOWN
THANKS
HE'S WITH RUTH

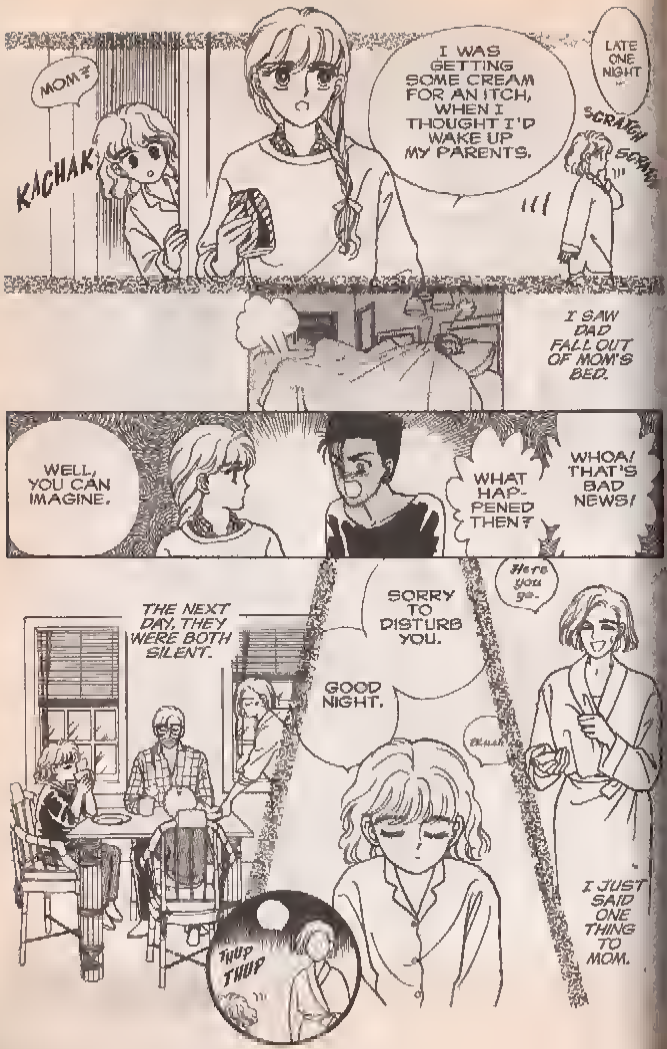

OH...
HEY, ANIBE.
ANI
SOME-THING WRONG?
NOTH-ING AT ALL!
NONE OF YOUR YOUR BUSI-NESS, ANY-WAY.
HEY, WAIT A SEC-OND!
WHAT ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS FOR?
ARE YOU JEAL-OUS?
EVEN THOUGH YOU THREW HIM AWAY, YOU DON'T WANT ANYBODY ELSE TO HAVE HIM?!

THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SUPPOSED TO MESS HIS HAIR AND HAVE LUNCH WITH HIM IS ME!
THAT'S RIGHT!
BUT ...
...I LIKE YOU, TOO, RUTH.
SO YOU FINALLY FIGURED THAT OUT, HUH?
IN THAT CASE, I'LL ...


SQUEEZE
WHAT ... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
YOU'RE SO NAÏVE... I'M NOT AS GOOD A FRIEND AS YOU THI--
.....
ANISE... WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY HOUSE TODAY?
WE CAN HANG OUT.
soda
soda

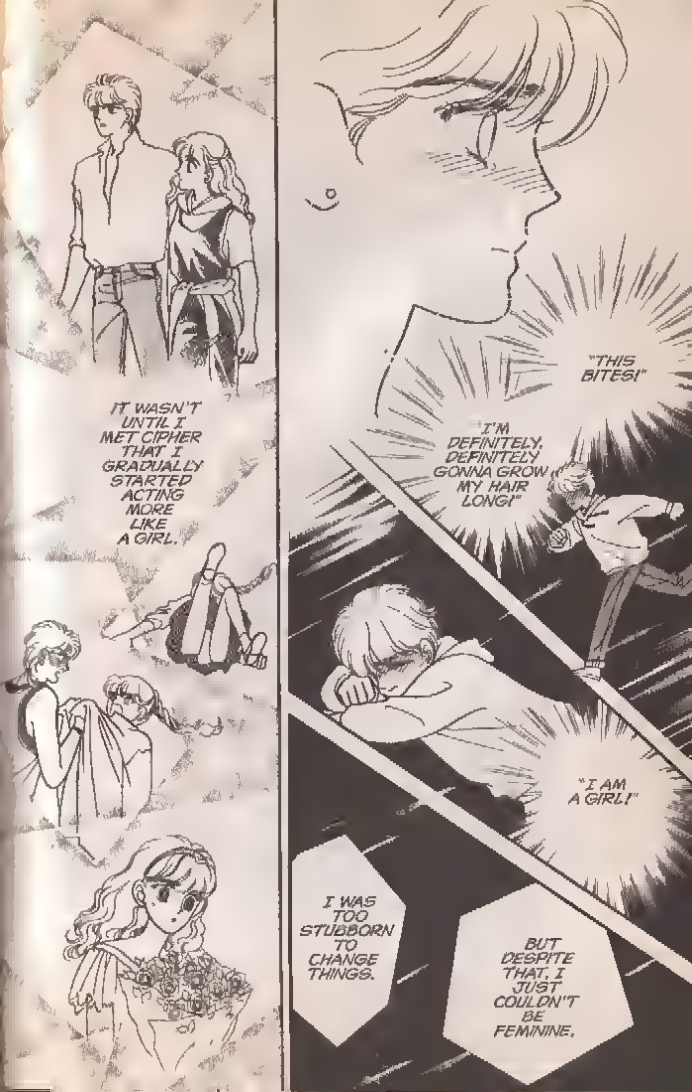

WAIT
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT SIVA?
WELL, DUH!
THAT'S WHO WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!
IT TURNS OUT WE BOTH LIKE THE SAME GUY.
THIS REALLY SUCKS, DOESN'T IT?
ALL WE CAN DO IS WISH EACH OTHER LUCK-
WHATEVER'S GONNA HAPPEN WILL HAPPEN.
I CAN'T JUST SAY "I MEAN THE YOUNGER ONE."
OOPS!
AFTER ALL, IT'S OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT?
NO, NOT AT ALL.
I WASN'T SURE IF YOU WERE OBLIVIOUS ABOUT LOVE, OR JUST DIDN'T CARE.
ANYWAY, I'M GLAD I CAN TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT LIKE THIS

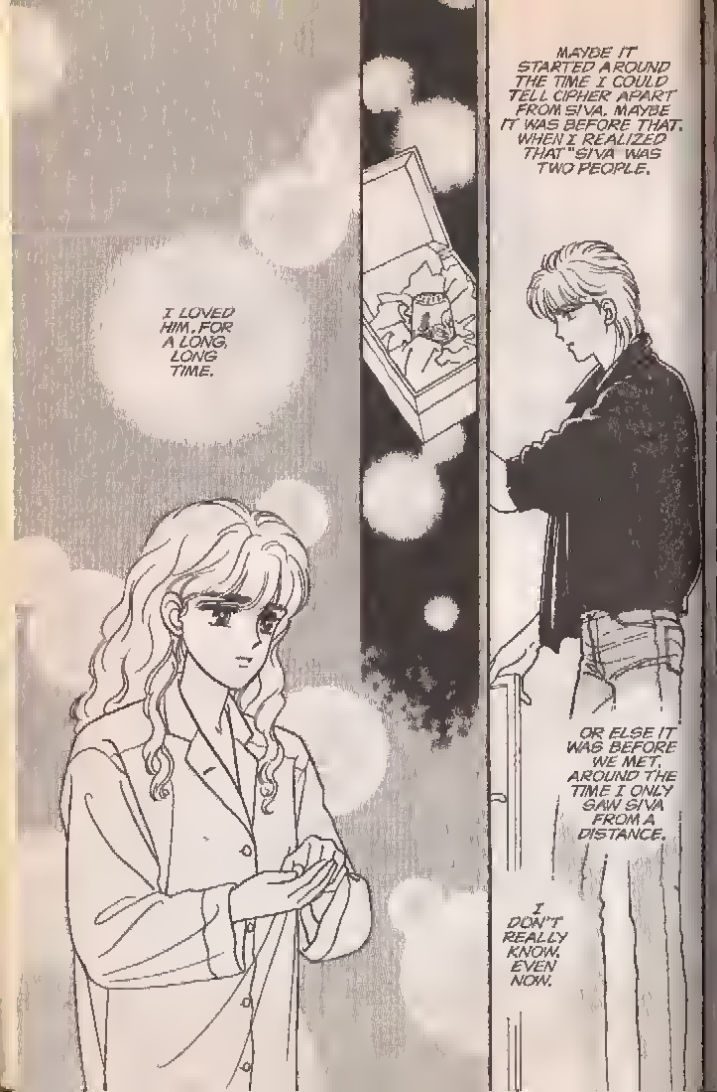

oh... there it is.
I'D ALREADY LEARNED ABOUT IT IN HEALTH CLASS.
REALLY? NOT EVEN WHEN YOU FIRST GOT YOUR PERIOD?
NO...
I WASN'T EVEN SURPRISED.
MAYBE YOU HAVE SOME DARK PAST THAT MESSES UP YOUR FEELINGS.
IT TOOK YOU A LONG TIME TO FIGURE THIS OUT.
NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT.
?
Uh, Um...
BUT DAD WAS THE ONLY ONE THERE, SO I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT TO HIM.
I'VE BECOME A WOMAN!
MMM...
IS THAT ALL YOU COULD SAY?
HEE HEE... NOTHING DARK ABOUT THAT!
Hee hee hee
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA


MOM?
KACHAK
I WAS GETTING SOME CREAM FOR AN ITCH, WHEN I THOUGHT I'D WAKE UP MY PARENTS.
LATE ONE NIGHT
SCRAICH
SCRAICH
I SAW DAD FALL OUT OF MOM'S BED.
WELL, YOU CAN IMAGINE.
WHAT HAP-PENED THEN?
WHOA! THAT'S BAD NEWS!
THE NEXT DAY, THEY WERE BOTH SILENT.
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU.
GOOD NIGHT.
Here you go.
I JUST SAID ONE THING TO MOM.
THUP THUP

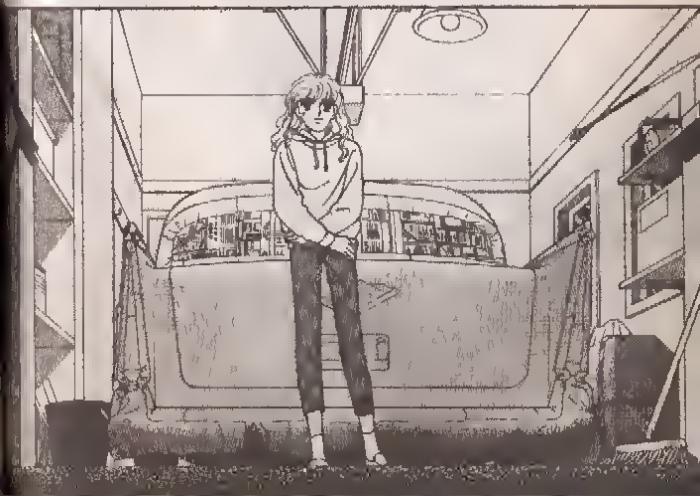
Laughing Merrily
NOD
AND IT WAS ALL CAUSED BY MY SKIN ALLERGY.
I WAS ALWAYS MIS-TAKEN FOR A BOY.
I ALWAYS HAD TO KEEP MY HAIR SHORT.
BUT THAT'S JUST PHYSICAL.
NOT AT ALL! IT WAS ALSO PSY-CHO-LOGI-CAL.
I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS SO FUNNY.
I GUESS THIS SKIN CONDITION IS MY "DARK PAST."
WHAT?!
ANISE AGE 7
THICK EYE-BROWS
SHORT HAIR
LOVED SPORTS
LOUD VOICE
NO BREASTS, OF COURSE
I GOT USED TO PEOPLE SAYING "SHE LOOKS LIKE A BOY." ONE DAY...
PIERCED EARS

MRPH!
YOU LOOK LIKE A GIRL!
HA!
SORRY .. SORRY!
HE DIDN'T KNOW I WAS A GIRL'
IT'S NOT FUNNY!
...YOU LIKED THAT LITTLE BOY?
ANISE, ARE YOU SAY-ING...
OH ...

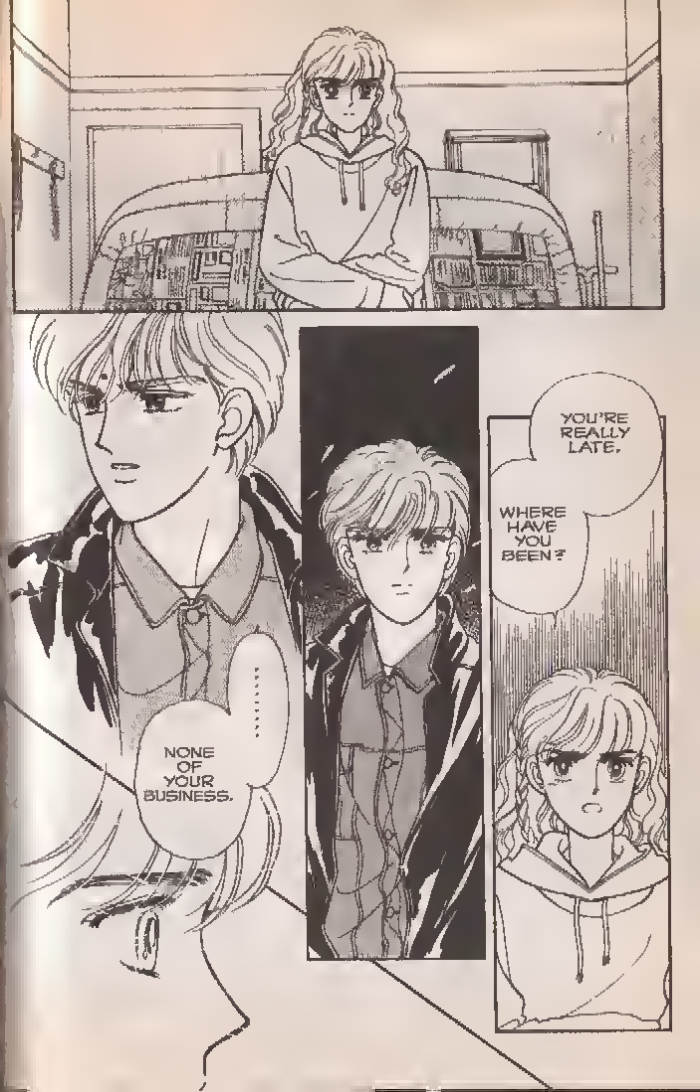

IT WASN'T UNTIL I MET CIPHER THAT I GRADUALLY STARTED ACTING MORE LIKE A GIRL.
"THIS BITES!"
"I'M DEFINITELY, DEFINITELY GONNA GROW MY HAIR LONG!"
"I AM A GIRL!"
I WAS TOO STUBBORN TO CHANGE THINGS.
BUT DESPITE THAT, I JUST COULDN'T BE FEMININE.


I LOVED HIM. FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.
MAYBE IT STARTED AROUND THE TIME I COULD TELL CIPHER APART FROM SIVA. MAYBE IT WAS BEFORE THAT. WHEN I REALIZED THAT "SIVA" WAS TWO PEOPLE.
OR ELSE IT WAS BEFORE WE MET. AROUND THE TIME I ONLY SAW SIVA FROM A DISTANCE.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW. EVEN NOW.

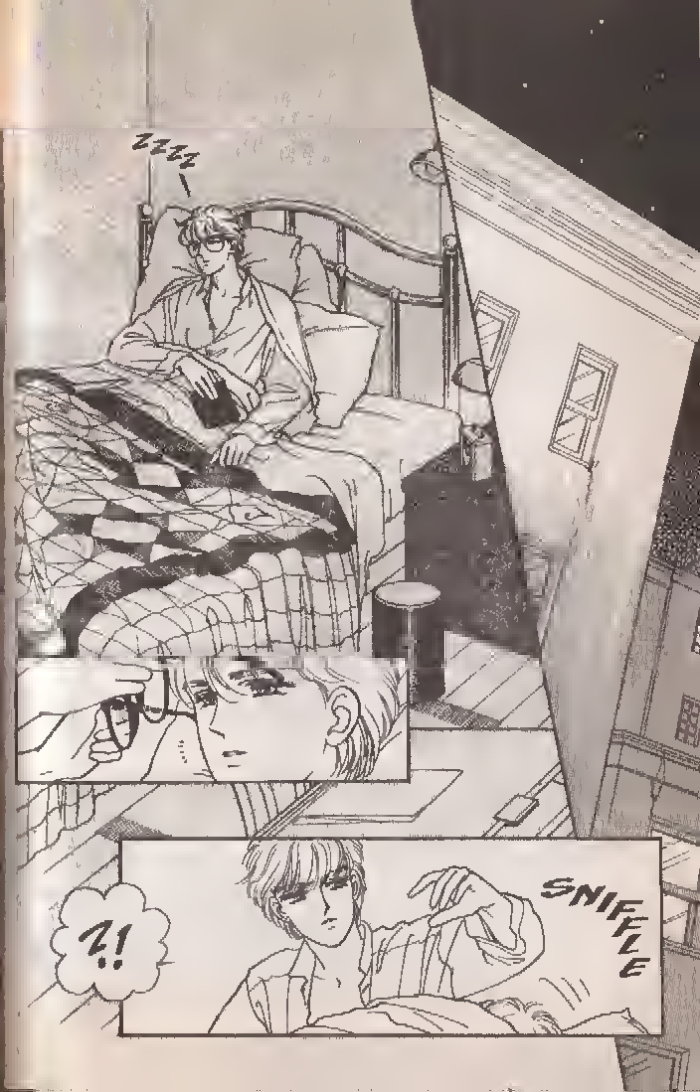
CIPHER...



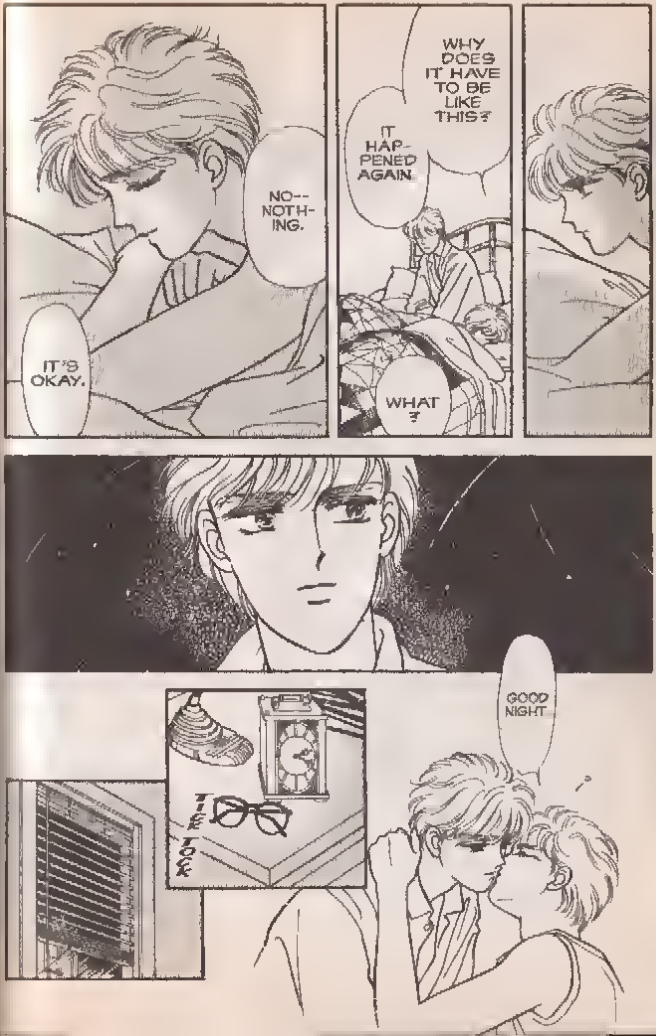
WOOOM

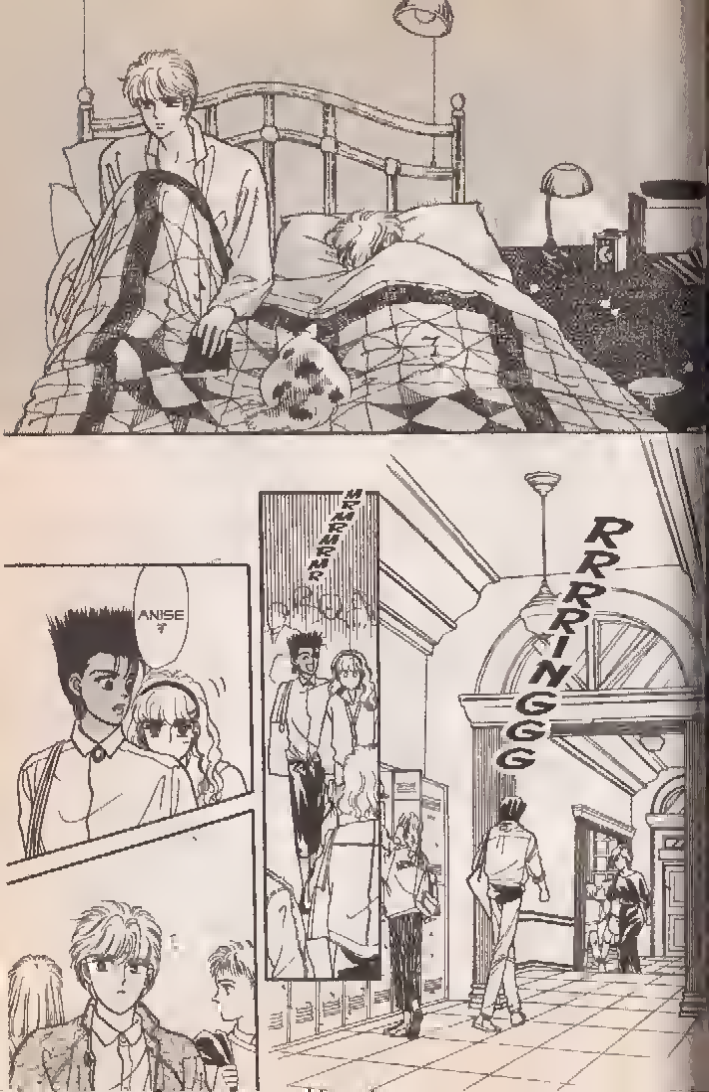

YOU'RE REALLY LATE.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
.....
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

I WAS THE ONE WHO THREW HIM AWAY.
GOD


ZZZZ
SNIFFLE
?!

I CAN'T FIND THE KEY.
WHAT KEY?
I GUESS YOU ALREADY ARE.
DID YOU HAVE A BAD DREAM?
YOU SCARED ME. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ROY?!
OKAY IF I SLEEP HERE TO-NIGHT?
OH.. SORRY.
I LOST THE KEY TO MY CAR.
SO I CAN'T DRIVE IT, EVEN IF I FIX IT.
YOU HAD ANOTHER FIGHT WITH ANISE, DIDN'T YOU?
DON'T BE SO DE-PRESSED
YOU HAVE A SPARE, DON'T YOU?

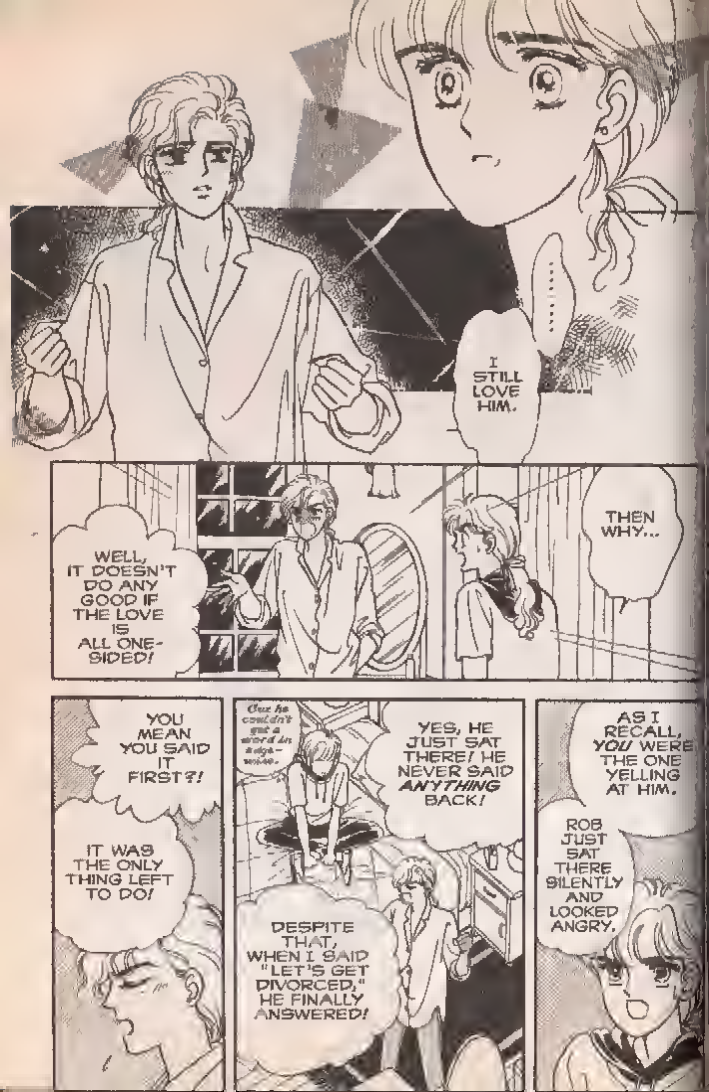

IT'S OKAY.
NO--NOTHING.
WHAT?
IT HAPPENED AGAIN.
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS?
GOOD NIGHT.
TIE TOCK

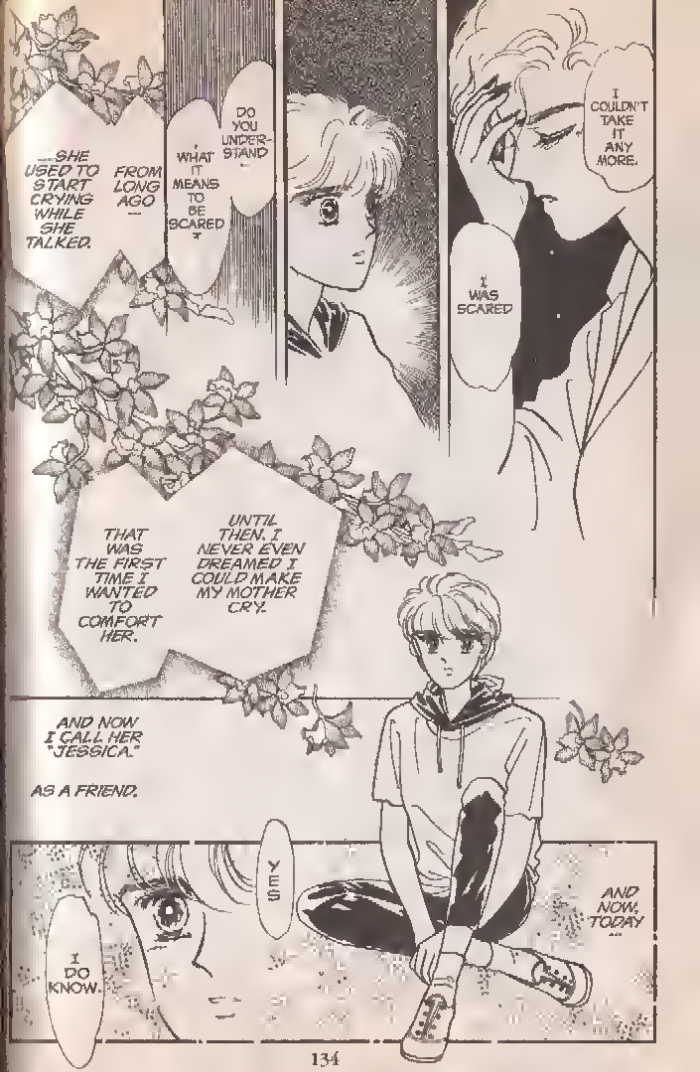

RRRRINGGG
MMMMMM
ANISE

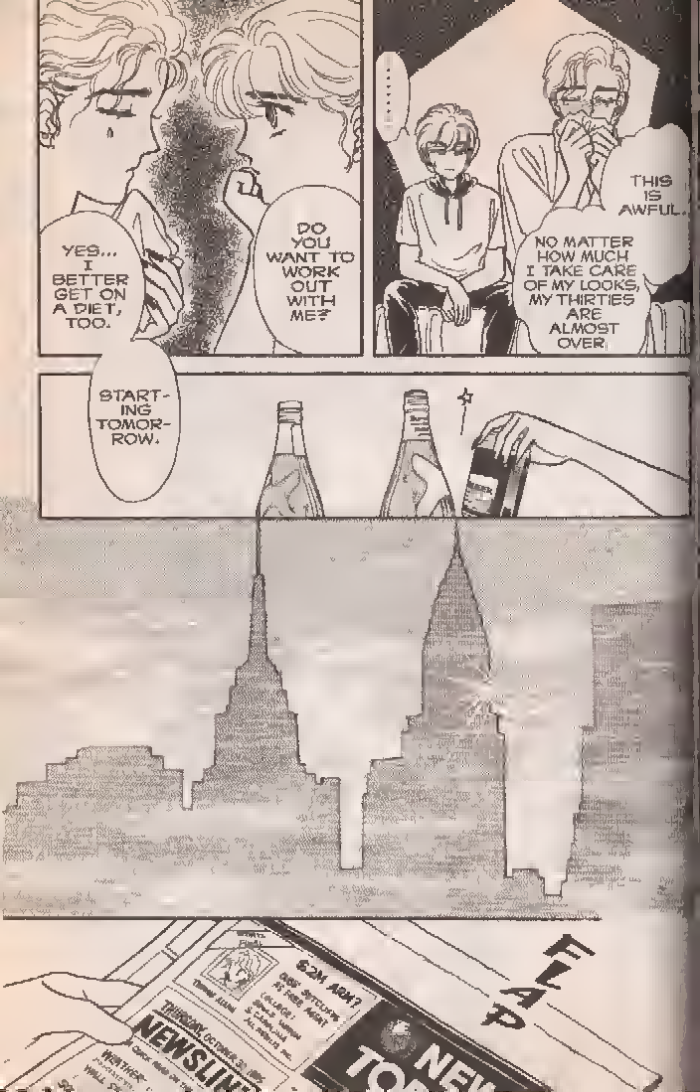
.....
C'MON, ANISE!
THIS WAY, HE'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.
HE'LL JUST THINK THAT YOU HATE HIM.
THEN I'LL BE THE WINNER. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
"NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS."
ONE LITTLE WORD FROM CIPHER CAN BE SO FRIGHTENING.
NOW I'M TOO SCARED TO EVEN TALK TO HIM.
CARD SHOP
HAPPY
CARD SHOP
WORK
PUNKIN

OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
IT IS ALMOST HALLOWEEN.
YOU'RE CUTTING IT CLOSE. HAVE YOU TALKED TO YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT?
WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR HALLOWEEN?
HAVE YOU PICKED A COSTUME?
NO, NOT REALLY. WHAT ABOUT MARTIN?
HE'S PUTTING SOMETHING TOGETHER AT HIS FRIEND'S HOUSE.
HE'S KEEPING IT SECRET UNTIL THE DAY.
WILL YOU BE HERE THAT NIGHT? LET ME KNOW WHAT YOUR PLANS ARE.
OKAY.

AGH!
HUH?
WHAT'S THIS?
WOW... SORRY.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO MEAN!
HIDING A PICTURE OF YOUR EX-HUSBAND UNDER YOUR PILLOW?
WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?
HOW DARE YOU TEASE YOUR MOTHER LIKE THAT?
STUFF LIKE THIS IS IMPORTANT TO A CHILD!
I'M SERIOUS, MOM!
OF COURSE IT'S WHAT YOU THINK IT IS!
IF THE ANSWER IS WHAT I THINK IT IS, THEN...
SO EXPLAIN IT!


I STILL LOVE HIM.
THEN WHY...
WELL, IT DOESN'T DO ANY GOOD IF THE LOVE IS ALL ONE-SIDED!
AS I RECALL, YOU WERE THE ONE YELLING AT HIM.
ROB JUST SAT THERE SILENTLY AND LOOKED ANGRY.
YES, HE JUST SAT THERE! HE NEVER SAID ANYTHING BACK!
Once he could n't get a word in edgewise.
DESPITE THAT, WHEN I SAID "LET'S GET DIVORCED," HE FINALLY ANSWERED!
YOU MEAN YOU SAID IT FIRST?!
IT WAS THE ONLY THING LEFT TO DO!

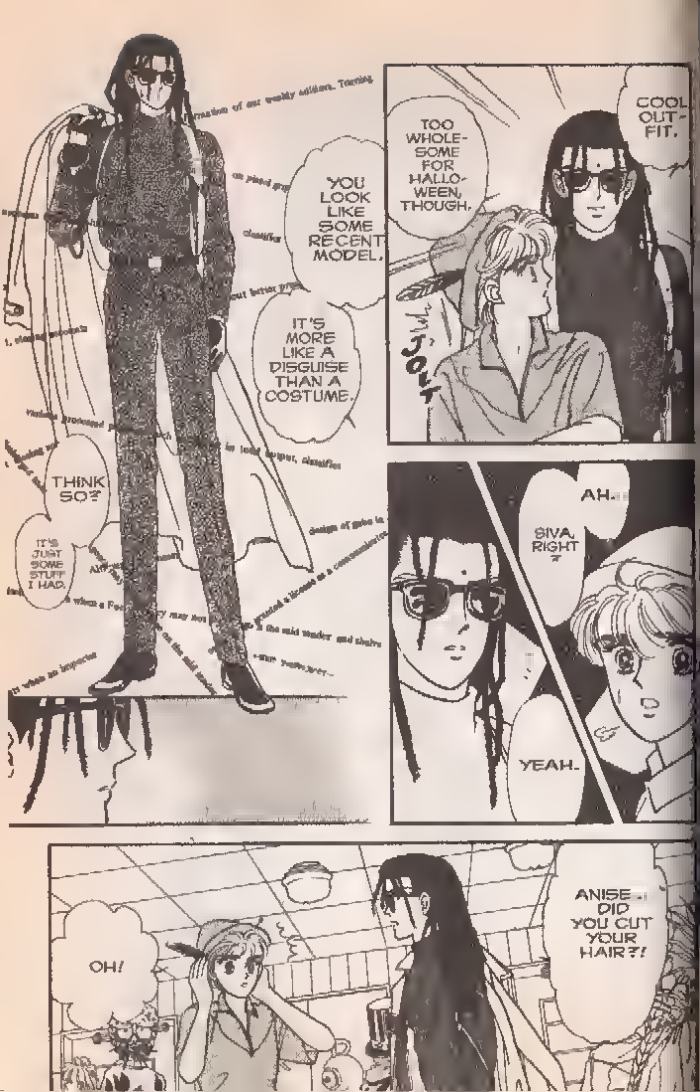

I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE.
I WAS SCARED
DO YOU UNDER-STAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SCARED?
—SHE USED TO START CRYING WHILE SHE TALKED. FROM LONG AGO—
UNTIL THEN, I NEVER EVEN DREAMED I COULD MAKE MY MOTHER CRY.
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I WANTED TO COMFORT HER.
AND NOW I CALL HER "JESSICA."
AS A FRIEND.
AND NOW, TODAY—
YES
I DO KNOW.


DO YOU WANT TO WORK OUT WITH ME?
YES... I BETTER GET ON A DIET, TOO.
.....
THIS IS AWFUL.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TAKE CARE OF MY LOOKS, MY THIRTIES ARE ALMOST OVER.
START-ING TOMOR-ROW.
FLAP
NEWSLINE
NEW TOO

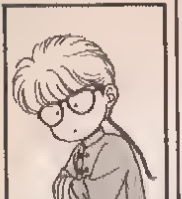
HI.
HI, COOPER.
MORN-ING.
MORN-ING.
I ♥ NY
BOO
HEY, IT'S PETER PAN!
YOU LOOK SO CUTE, ANISE!
YOU, TOO, RUTH.
THAT'S ... CUTE ...
HA HA HA! THANKS
THIS WAS NETTY IMPLE.

SO, DID YOU PIN UP YOUR HAIR?
ANISE?!
I JUST FELT LIKE A CHANGE.
WHY'D YOU CHOP IT SO SHORT?!
YOU CUT YOUR HAIR?!
A CHANGE?
ALL RIGHT I WON'T ASK ANY MORE.
AND THAT CUT DOES SUIT YOU.
REALLY?
Thanks!
BUT IT LOOKS A LITTLE REDDER THAN BEFORE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BLONDE AND A REDHEAD.
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO MIFFED ABOUT?

OH
WELL, THANKS, THEN.
AND IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
REDHEADS ARE TOTALLY IN FASHION THESE DAYS.
THEY'RE REALLY CUTE
ANISE?!
ANISE REALLY IS CUTE.
SO...
...WILL SHE TAKE HIM, THEN?


COOL OUT-FIT.
TOO WHOLE-SOME FOR HALLO-WEEN, THOUGH.
SIGH
YOU LOOK LIKE SOME RECENT MODEL.
IT'S MORE LIKE A DISGUISE THAN A COSTUME.
THINK SO?
IT'S JUST SOME STUFF I HAD.
AH.
SIVA, RIGHT?
YEAH.
ANISE... DID YOU CUT YOUR HAIR?!
OH!

ARE YOU STILL FIGHTING WITH CIPHER?
IS THAT WHY?
IT FEELS SO LIGHT NOW.
YOU NOTICED PRETTY QUICK!
NO WAY!
I JUST FELT LIKE I WANTED A CHANGE.
I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS AT FAULT.
I THINK I MADE HIM MAD.
CLASSES ARE STARTING.
LET'S GO

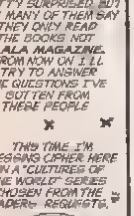


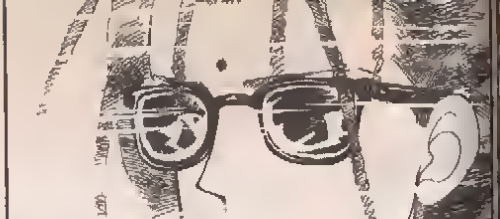
CULTURES OF THE WORLD SERIES, NO.1

AS MBC STARTED UP AND CAME VOLUMES 3 AND 4 HIT THE STANDS, I GOT THE FEELING THAT THE NUMBER OF NEW READERS SHOT UP QUICKLY UNTIL NOW MOST OF MY FANS WROTE THAT "I'VE BEEN READING YOUR WORK EVER SINCE YOU DEBUTED". I WAS PRETTY SURPRISED, BUT NOW MANY OF THEM SAY THEY ONLY READ THE BOOKS NOT LALA MAGAZINE. FROM NOW ON I'LL TRY TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS I'VE GOTTEN FROM THESE PEOPLE

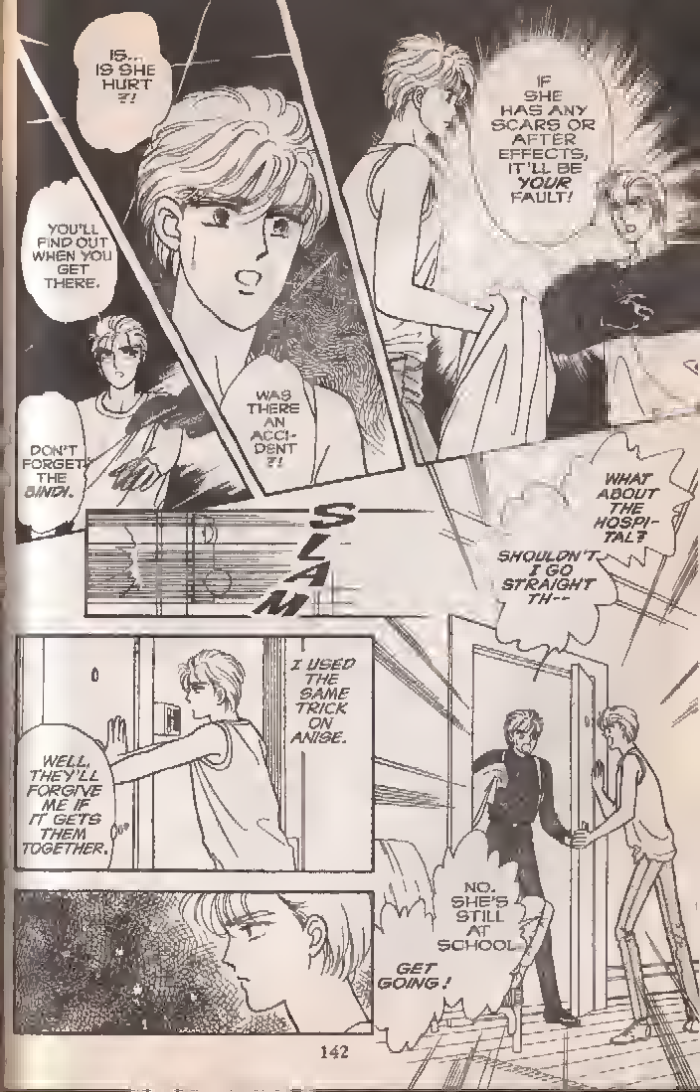
× × ×

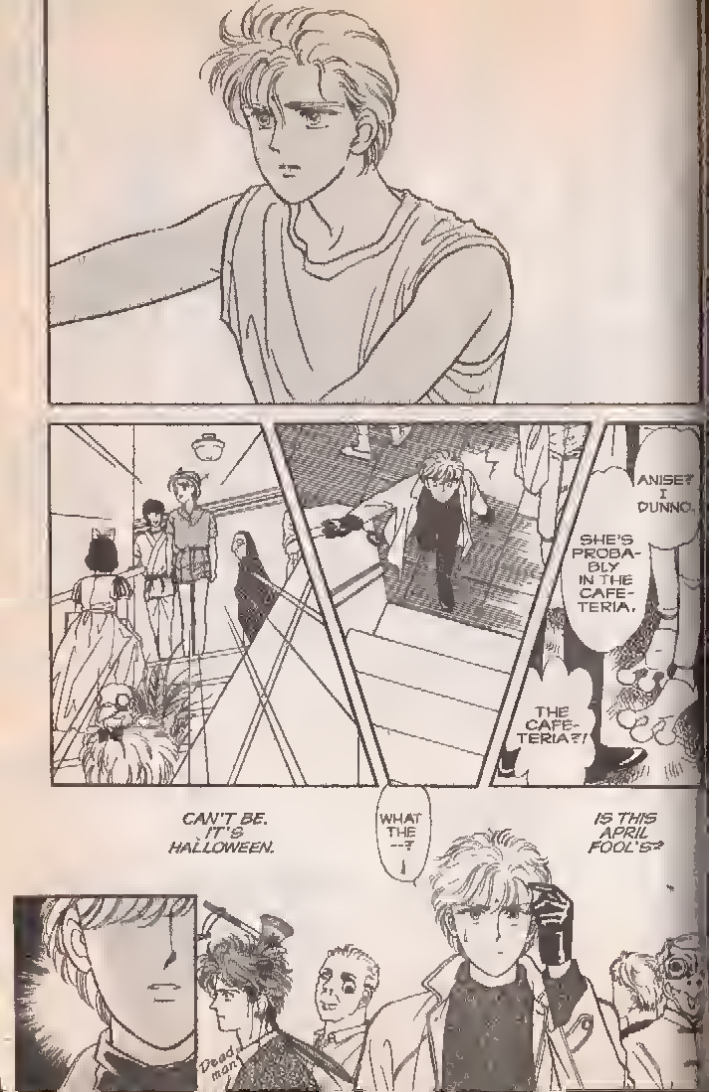
THIS TIME, I'M DRESSING CIPHER HERE IN A "CULTURES OF THE WORLD" SERIES CHOSEN FROM THE READERS' REQUESTS.





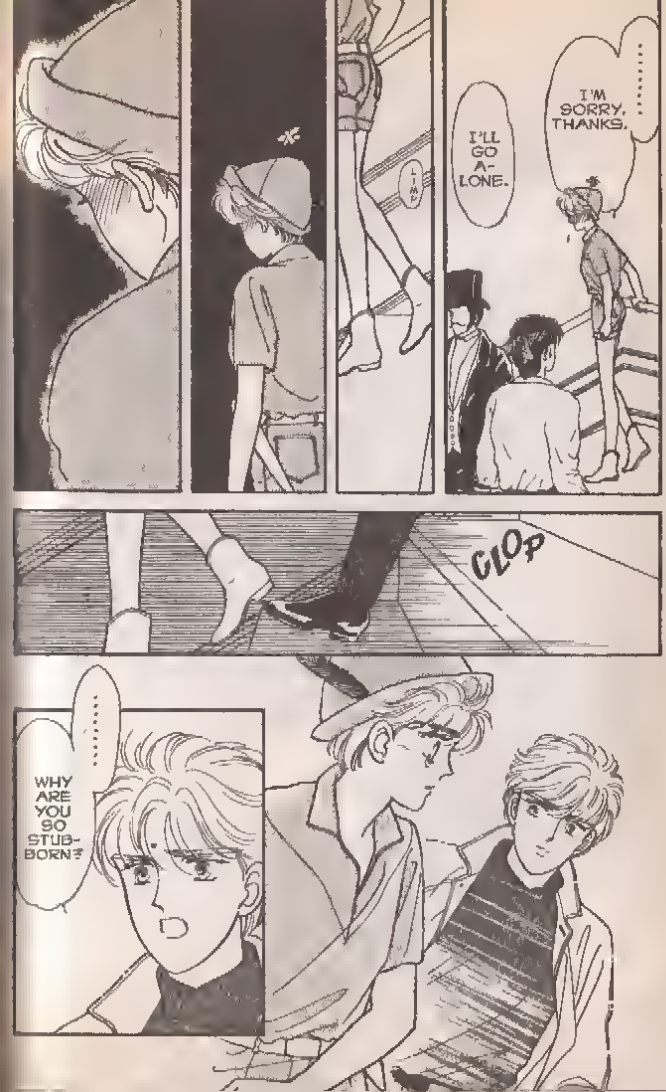
BAM!
ROY!
ANISE IS IN TROU-BLE!
WH--WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IN TROUBLE? WHAT HAPPENED?
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! PUT ON THIS OUTFIT AND GET TO SCHOOL AS FAST AS YOU CAN!


IS... IS SHE HURT?!
IF SHE HAS ANY SCARS OR AFTER EFFECTS, IT'LL BE YOUR FAULT!
YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN YOU GET THERE.
WAS THERE AN ACCI-DENT?!
DON'T FORGET THE BINDI.
SLAM
WHAT ABOUT THE HOSPI-TAL?
SHOULDN'T I GO STRAIGHT TH--
I USED THE SAME TRICK ON ANISE.
WELL, THEY'LL FORGIVE ME IF IT GETS THEM TOGETHER.
NO. SHE'S STILL AT SCHOOL.
GET GOING!

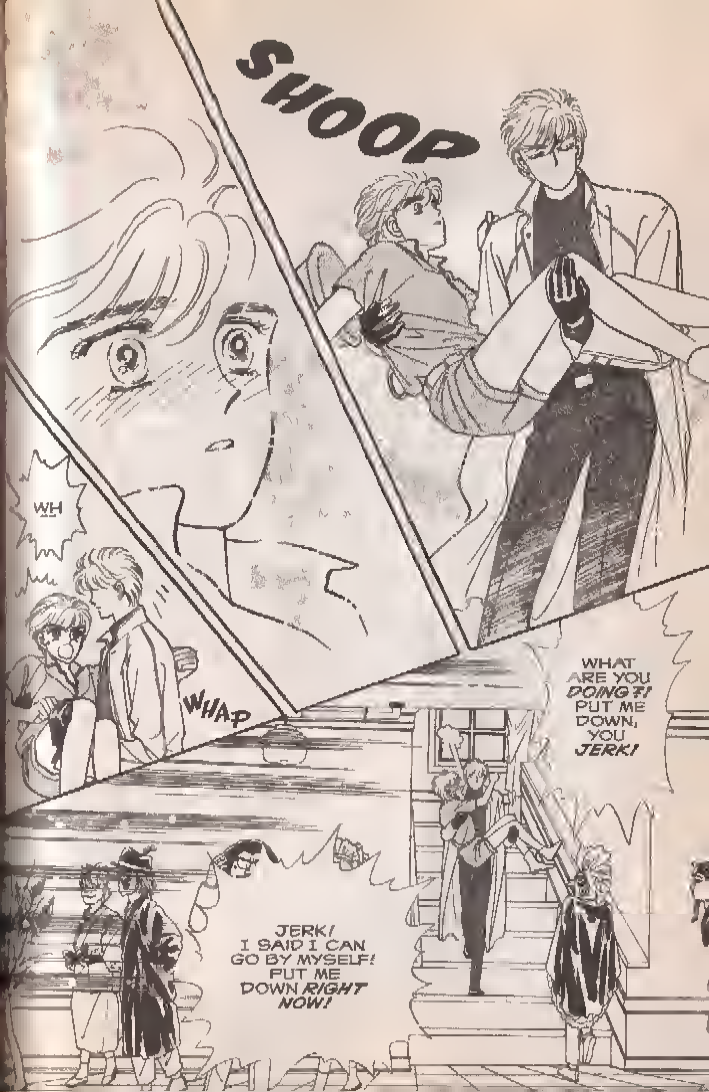

ANISE? I DUNNO.
SHE'S PROBABLY IN THE CAFETERIA.
THE CAFETERIA?!
WHAT THE --?
CAN'T BE. IT'S HALLOWEEN.
IS THIS APRIL FOOL'S?
Dead man!

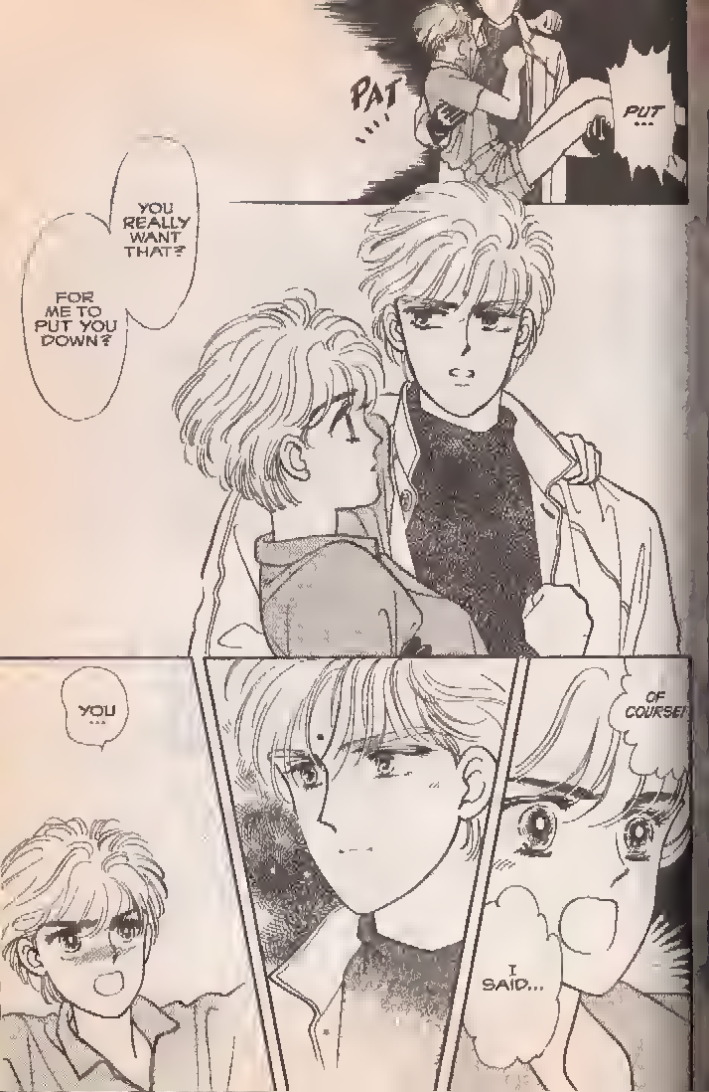
HUH?
HER HAIR!
THAT'S NOT SIVA.
IT'S CIPHER!
ANISE?!
WHY? WHEN DID THEY...?
IT CAN'T BE THIS MORNING
CLICK

ARE YOU OKAY? DID YOU HIT SOME-THING?
NAH ... I'M FINE.
I JUST MISSED THE STEP.
!
ZING
YOU'D BETTER GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
LOOK, YOU'RE LIMP-ING!
HERE. HOLD MY ARM.
IT'S OKAY. I CAN GO BY MYSELF.
NO, C'MON. JUST TAKE MY...
I SAID I'M FINE!
LEAVE ME ALONE!

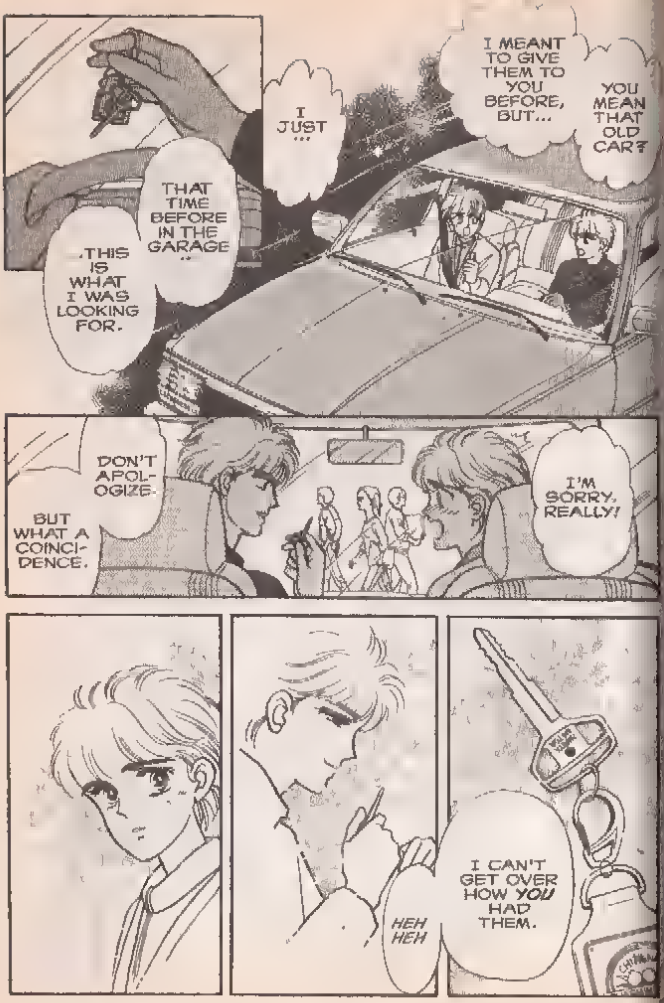

I'M SORRY, THANKS.
.....
I'LL GO A-LONE.
LIMP
CLOP
WHY ARE YOU SO STUB-BORN?
.....

.....
I'M NOT STUBBORN!
I SAID LEAVE ME ALONE!
SWIP

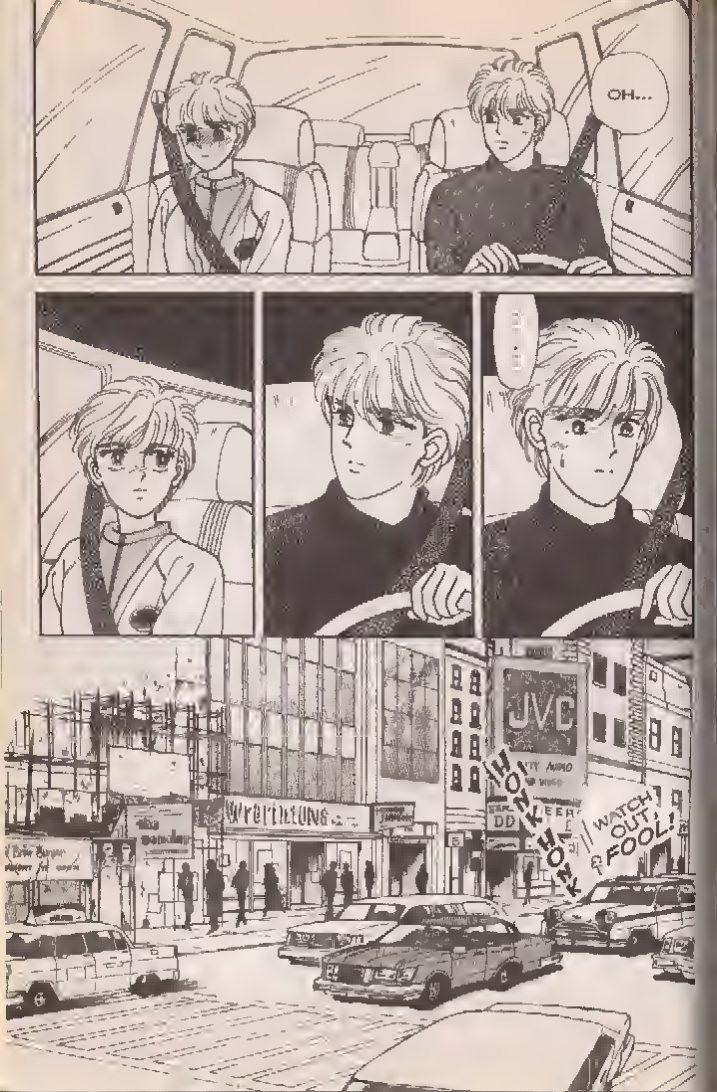

SWOOP
WH
WHAP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! PUT ME DOWN, YOU JERK!
JERK! I SAID I CAN GO BY MYSELF! PUT ME DOWN RIGHT NOW!


PAT
PUT...
YOU REALLY WANT THAT?
FOR ME TO PUT YOU DOWN?
YOU...
OF COURSE!
I SAID...

...YOU SPOILED BRAT!
MY CAR KEYS!
YOU HAD THEM THE WHOLE TIME!


I MEANT TO GIVE THEM TO YOU BEFORE, BUT...
YOU MEAN THAT OLD CAR?
I JUST ...
THAT TIME BEFORE IN THE GARAGE ...
THIS IS WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR.
I'M SORRY, REALLY!
DON'T APOL-OGIZE.
BUT WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.
I CAN'T GET OVER HOW YOU HAD THEM.
HEH HEH

DON'T WORRY. IT BELONGS TO A FRIEND.
IT'S OKAY AS LONG AS WE'RE NOT OUT TOO LATE.
B BUT THIS IS A BORROWED CAR, ISN'T IT?
WAH!
IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO GO HOME WITHOUT SEEING THE PARADE.
THE NURSE SAID THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR FOOT, SO HOW ABOUT A DATE?
He he he! With this haircut...
BUT ... MAYBE WE'LL LOOK LIKE A COUPLE OF GUYS OUT ON A DATE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NOBODY IS GOING TO THINK YOU LOOK LIKE A GUY.


OH...
...
JVC
HONK HONK
WATCH OUT, FOOL!

Scene 5: THE SLEEPING BEAUTY
IN A HUNDRED YEARS
—The End